

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Construction Start of Single-Family Homes in American Addition Celebrated**

Mayor Michael B. Coleman today joined Homeport President and CEO Amy Klaben, Councilmember Priscilla R. Tyson together with Gloria Zebbs Anderson, Secretary, North Central Area Commission and American Addition residents to mark the start of construction of single-family homes. The four homes located on Lee Avenue in the American Addition neighborhood are being constructed with funds from the second phase of the National Stabilization Program.

**“This marks another step in the transformation of the historic American Addition neighborhood,” Mayor Coleman said. “Together, we will turn one of the most neglected neighborhoods in the city’s history into a vibrant residential area with new homes and green infrastructure.”**

The homes designed by Sullivan-Bruck Architects and Kaiser Design Group and under construction by KMM Builders will range from 1400 to 1600 square feet. Homes will have three bedrooms and two baths in a range of models, including both ranch and two story variations and will meet the green AWARE standards. Prices range from \$110,000 to \$140,000 and are available to income-qualified buyers.

**“These revitalization efforts in American Addition are an outstanding example of the strategic use of NSP2 funds by the city,” Amy Klaben said. “This is what Building Vibrant Communities is all about. We are bringing high-quality, energy-efficient homes and ready home buyers to a neighborhood close to downtown and in the vicinity of the new STEM school.”**

These homes are the first of a four-phase project to span ten years and 110 new homes. Through the revitalization of this neighborhood, Homeport, also known as Columbus Housing Partnership, will create a mixed-income community comprised of energy-efficient, high quality, single family homes. American Addition is located in North Central Columbus just 3.5 miles from downtown. All new homebuyers will complete the HUD-certified home buyer education classes in Homeport’s Housing Advisory Center.

**“The American Addition neighborhood is an important piece of African American heritage in Columbus,” said Councilmember Priscilla R. Tyson, chair of the Finance Committee. “This community is now at the beginning of a rebirth, a transformation that will lead to increased investment and economic development for decades to come.”**

These homes are anticipated to be completed in March, 2012. Construction on additional houses in phase 1 will commence in 2012.